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The Evans & Reeves Grapevine

Los Angeles, Calif.

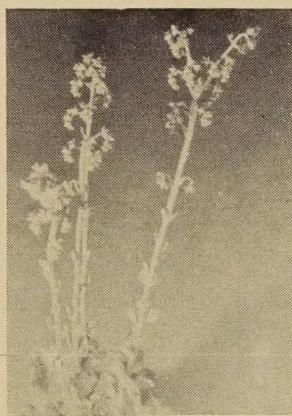
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NO. 8

IT'S TIME FOR . . .

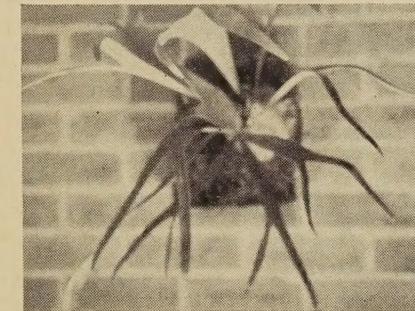
Living gifts that keep alive the spirit of Christmas throughout all twelve months. It happens that in California there are available in December some of the choicest of the world's fine plants, and we suggest that you make use of these as presents for your choicest friends.



(1) roseas are too

Pink Pearl with bloom larger balled specimens heavily budded at \$10. Rhododendrons aren't fool-proof in southern California and we do not guarantee them, but they are no more capricious than many subjects of which we are less shy (Gardenias, for instance). They do require perfect drainage (in tubs if you shade). Two and a half feet high and as much or more across with round heads of yellow daisy-like flowers lights up boldly the darkest corner of porch or garden, in pots or as deep ground-cover under big-leaved tropicals. We have been unusually fortunate this season in unearthing some extra-large years-old tubbed specimens of this slow-growing plant that sell at \$7.50 and \$12.50.

There's always something new turning up at Evans & Reeves—new to our part of the world at least—and this year it's **YELLOW** Cinerarias grown by our famed Walter Oertel from seed procured in south Germany. Fancy a mass of these flanked with our well-known azure blues! We also offer a new extra-dwarf multicolor, a limited



(2) vegetarian trophy

(Continued on inside page)

No design in all nature is more exotic than the hybrid *Echeveria rosea-grandis* (1), a spectacular sun-loving rosette of metallic blue-green with amethyst crevices and fluted margins of dusty red overlaid pink and bronze. In a pot of old terra cotta or an antiqued gray Botany planter this rare succulent will throw long stems of multicolored jewel-like flowers to open on Christmas Day.

An equally amazing subject is *Platycerium alcicorne*, better known as **staghorn fern** (2), a handsome antler-like aerial plant that can be mounted on the natural stone or brick of a living room wall, or better, grown on a tree trunk or supporting beam of a shaded patio. It requires some moisture but little care and eventually achieves considerable size and fantastic conformations.

This year we are able to offer you **southern California-grown Rhododendrons** (3) in eight-inch pots at \$4.25—the ever-popular buds; three gallon cans of several rich reds, \$7.50, also budding; and have only adobe soil), lots of peat moss, consistent moisture, and acidity. Cottonseed meal several times during the growing season is adequate fertilizer, but in addition to this we strongly recommend acidifier about every four weeks from March through September. An occasional application of rontone is helpful in fall and winter.

LIGULARIA KAEMFERI VARIETY ARGENTEA (4) is the answer for numerous problem spots in complete



(3) budding genus

Hugh Evans

Christmas Orchids

Many gardeners in the past have, I suppose, refrained from buying and planting **Cymbidium Orchids** owing to their initial cost. Now, however, excepting only the rarest and choicest varieties, these beautiful plants can be purchased for much less than has formerly been the case. They are not particularly social plants and though happy and contented with one another's society, they should for best results be kept away from other



plants, otherwise they are likely to receive too much or too little water. The principal requisite is perfect drainage and protection from the hot sun. We have reconstructed our ideas with respect to fertilizers and have come to the conclusion that Cymbidiums young and old, whether grown in the ground or in containers, respond to fertilizers in reason.

Most gardeners, I imagine, are familiar with **Epidendrum O'Brienianum** (see illustration), with its long sprays of vivid scarlet or orange flowers. Grouped in a sunny spot in the garden, these brilliantly colored Orchids will actually outbloom any other plant in the garden, in areas free from severe frosts. All they ask is water and a fairly rich soil; the sprays cut and brought into the house invariably evoke expressions of delight and admiration.

There are, too, a number of epiphytic Orchids from Mexico and Central America which are easily grown outside for most of the year, indeed we have had baskets of the Mexican **Laelias** hanging in our lath houses for many years, summer and winter. These species of Orchids are interesting and graceful and add charm to any patio or sun room. **L. anceps** and **autumnalis**, now blooming, have rose and lavender blossoms.

Guatemalan **Oncidiums**, too, are commencing

FROM WHERE WE SIT

To sleep, perchance to dream. Yes, let us dream for a while, not about Christmas, 1951, nor Christmas in years gone by, the so-called good old days, but of Christmas a few years hence, the sort of Christmas that every thinking man, woman and child would give a right arm for, and for which many — alas — give much more than that this very day.

Let's dream about a Christmas where all families can be thanking God again that they are together, where the radio can pick up the sound of young voices singing Christmas carols the world over: in Korea, Egypt, Indio China, yes, and behind what used to be an Iron Curtain.

Let's dream of the day when the United Nations will be an assembly of nations which are united, not against a common enemy, but for the exchange of productive ideas—a clearing house to which each may bring the sum total of his nation's best efforts, so that all may benefit and share.

Let's dream of Service and Veteran's hospitals being gradually vacated, let's pray for the day when they are no longer in existence at all.

Let's dream of the day when the words bigotry and prejudice are eliminated from all languages, including our own, when people of all races and religions can look up and say, "I'm glad I was born, and I'm glad I am alive."

Now, let's rub our eyes, give a good stretch, and proceed to do everything in our power to make our dream come true.

their blooming period. **O. tigrinum** splendidum displays long sprays of yellow, spotted-with-brown flowers, while **O. Cavendishianum** has smaller yellow-green blossoms. The former prefers a warm lanai atmosphere while the latter is happily situated out-of-doors.

More Christmas Gift Ideas

number of pure whites and light blues, as well as quantities of the usual pinks, dark blues, dark red, the Siter's Rainbow strain of calico patterns, Cremer's Berlin Market and H. and S. Giants. These are all available for Christmas gifts in three-inch pots at \$2.50 a dozen, and larger. Plan your friends' spring beds with plants of the season's best.



(4) shady character

large double midseason, **Pink Ball**—double mid-season to late, **Mrs. Howard Asper**—large single late; **ROSE**: **Lady Clare** (Grandiflora Rosea)—all season single, **Rose Dawn**—mid-season formal; **REDS**: **Glen Forty**—informal midseason, **C. M. Hovey** (Col. Firey)—midseason formal,

Pope Pius—late formal, **Te Deum**—very late informal; **VARIEGATED**: **Gigantea** (Emperor Wilhelm)—gigantic red and white all season, **Aurora Borealis** (Finlandia Variegated, Margaret Jack) light red and white informal midseason, and **Chandleri elegans** — rose and white double all season.

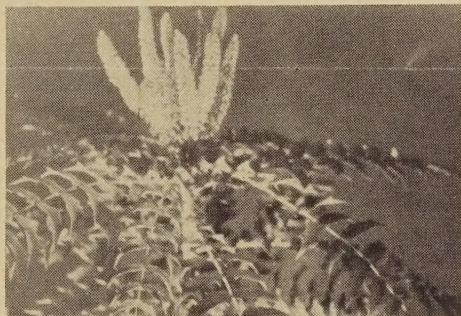
Then there is the **Camelia species sasanqua**, small-

In AZALEAS, too, our horizons have expanded. Besides the usual dazzling assortment of **BELGIAN INDICA HYBRIDS**, we now display all colors in the taller and faster-growing single-flowered **SOUTHERN INDICAS** which blossom late into the spring — **April Snow**, **Snowbird**, **Blushing Bride**, **Seraphin** and **Pride of Darking**. And the old-fashioned huge-growing purples—**PHOENICIA** and **FORMOSANA**.

A rare shrub for sun or shade is **Mahonia lomarifolia** (5), its bold cart-wheels of spiny gray-green leaves are arranged in layers with open spaces of slender stems and new cart-wheels appearing at ground level. If you want to give a special friend a special plant, ask us to show you this, or a choice **Rhaphidophora decursiva** (6), a slow-growing, large-leaved shade vine suggestive of cut-leaf **Scindapsus** (**Pothos**). We can plant these for you in stylish simplicity of Botany Planter or sturdy redwood tubs.

Patented (only) bare-root Roses will be in before Christmas. Phone us about December 15th for these. Gift certificates will secure non-patented roses for your friends.

Finally there will be a glasshouse overflowing with gay plants for house gifts—**Peppers**, **Heathers**, **Cyclamen**, **Azaleas** and **Poinsettias**, all grown indoors for indoor use.



(5) whorled wonder



(6) tropical twiner

The most personal gift of all - - -

- - - one the recipient selects himself!

No. _____

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Evans and REEVES Nurseries

255 South Barrington Avenue, Los Angeles 49

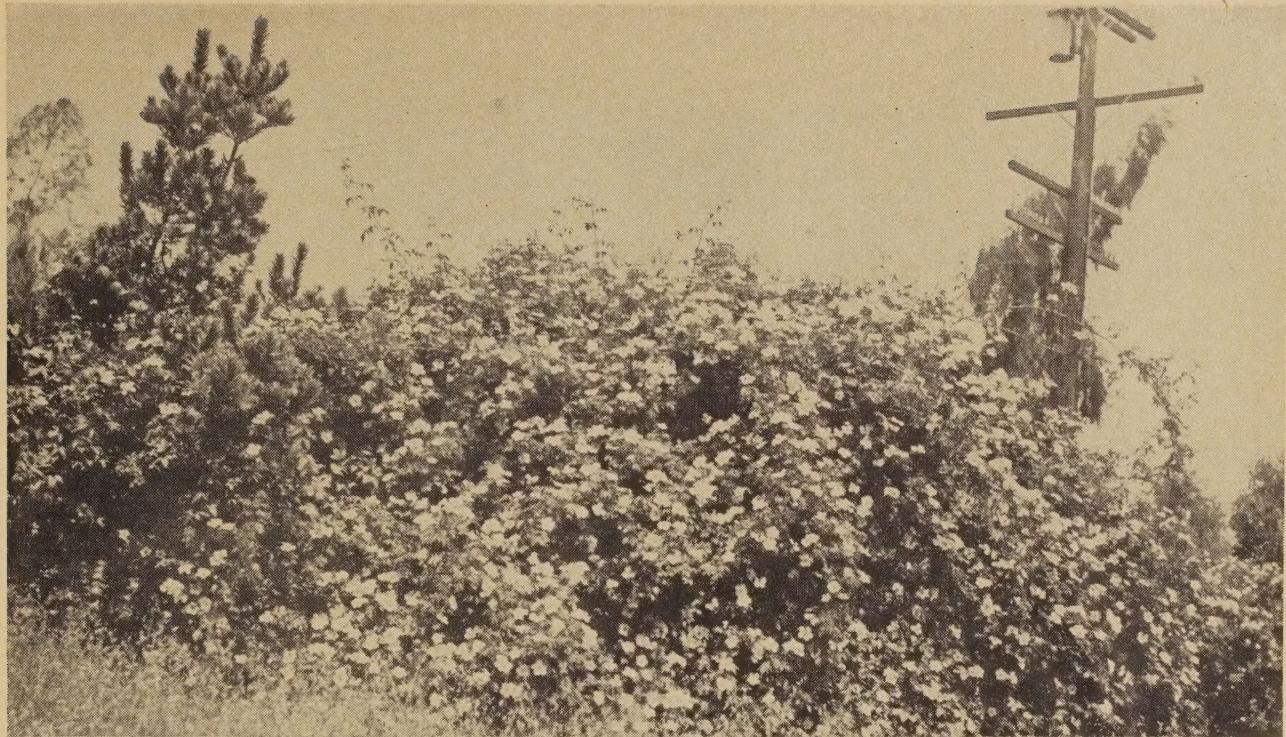
are pleased to notify

that upon presentation of this certificate
plants and garden accessories in the amount
of \$_____ may be selected as a gift of

Not subject to cash refund

Sample

Our gift certificates, available in any amount, are especially appropriate for collectors of specialties, new home owners, fanciers of plants not yet in season (such as bare-root roses). They are redeemable at any time for a vast variety of superb quality plants (or accessories) including rare and unusual tropicals, exotic flowering subjects, house plants, anything suited to our area from **Abelia** to **Zygomelatum**!



"GATHER YE ROSEBUDS WHILE YE MAY—"

GIANT ECONOMY SIZE

There are Roses and Roses, and this time each year brings forth new hybrids for which extravagant claims are made with respect to color, fragrance, size, disease resistance, etc. We have an excellent selection of fresh new plants, which includes the tried and true favorites and the latest novelties, but our special subject this month is a climber, a wild Rose from China, not new by any means, but most uncommon.

No semantic mystery surrounds the specific name of **Rosa gigantea**. Unwilling to believe our eyes, we actually stepped off the length of an eight-year-old plant growing in a local garden—and it was quite a walk, 270 feet from tip to tip! The great size of the Rose which might easily be considered a liability is not, however, beyond control, for the plant responds well to pruning and it is perfectly feasible to limit its size to about twenty feet long and six feet high. If, on the other hand, it is desirable to cover an unsightly bank, a large barn or even an unlovely tree, *Rosa gigantea* is your plant. And being well armed, a frequently useful attribute, no "trespassers

beware" sign is needed for the wall or fence covered with *Rosa gigantea*.

It has certain positive advantages; it is absolutely evergreen, absolutely mildew-proof, accepts any soil, and is a dependable, abundant producer of creamy buds opening to pure white single flowers, characteristically borne in upright panicles of from ten to 15 spicely-fragrant blossoms. A mature plant of *Rosa gigantea* in full bloom is an impressive sight, not for size alone but for the sheer beauty of its clouds of snow-white flowers.

We have had few if any plants to offer in the last ten years, and as far as we know no other nurseries grow this Rose. Its great vigor and the fact that it does not go dormant are logical reasons for excluding it from the average commercial Rose planting where space is at a premium to permit budding and bare-root handling. Lately we have had more and more calls for strong-growing plants to cover large areas, and while others have been used to good advantage, none is quite the equal of *Rosa gigantea*, so we have readied a new crop, now in four gallon containers on six foot stakes, which sell for \$4 each.

**EVANS & REEVES
NURSERIES**

"It's Different"



255 So. Barrington Ave. Los Angeles 49, Calif.
ARIZONA 3-6528



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The Staff of Evans and Reeves Nurseries

Wishes You a Merry Christmas

And a Bountiful New Year.